

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.
GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Tuesday, May 3, 2005

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**GOVERNOR EHRLICH APPOINTS NEW LEADER FOR
THE PORT OF BALTIMORE**

F. Brooks Royster Named Executive Director of the Maryland Port Administration

ANNAPOLIS – Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., today appointed veteran maritime executive

F. Brooks Royster, III, as Executive Director of the Maryland Port Administration (MPA). As Executive Director, Royster will be responsible for leading one of Maryland's most powerful economic engines into the 21st Century.

"The maritime industry is extremely competitive and constantly changing," said Governor Ehrlich. "Brooks Royster brings to Maryland the experience, the knowledge and the initiative to build on the momentum we now enjoy at the Port of Baltimore. Today we entrust the future of one of Maryland's treasures to a leader who is well known in the maritime community for his proven track record of success."

Royster is a 33-year veteran of the maritime industry with extensive public and private sector experience. He comes to the MPA from the Port of Miami, Florida where he served the last three years as Executive Officer of the Port of Miami Terminal Operating Company, LLC (POMTOC). POMTOC is the Port of Miami's marine container terminal. During his tenure, Royster managed the company to record levels in throughput and profitability. His professional background includes experience as a Chief Operating Officer with the Mississippi State Port Authority and senior management positions with major private sector maritime corporations in the southern United States.

"Because the port of Baltimore has been doing so well, the position of Executive Director of this port is so very desirable that many highly qualified persons in the maritime industry threw their hats in the ring," said former U.S. Congresswoman Helen Delich Bentley, leader of the search committee to find a new Executive Director. "After an exhaustive selection process, Brooks Royster was our overwhelming choice to lead the Port of Baltimore into the Twenty-First Century."

The 54-year-old Royster earned a bachelor's degree in business Administration from the University of South Alabama. He also is a graduate of the Tulane Institute for Port and Terminal Operations in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is married with two grown children.
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F. Brooks Royster, III

Biography

F. Brooks Royster, III is a 33-year veteran of the maritime industry with wide ranging senior management experience within the international and domestic maritime, transportation and logistics, and Port Authority arenas. He has senior management experience in both the public and private sectors. In March, 2002, Mr. Royster was appointed Executive Officer of the Port of Miami Terminal Operating Company, LLC (POMTOC) in Miami, Florida where he managed the Port of Miami's common user marine container terminal. During his tenure, he managed the company to record levels in throughput and profitability. In addition to navigating the business challenges faced by any maritime organization in today's highly competitive climate, Mr. Royster is credited with successfully steering POMTOC through a succession of hurricanes that struck Florida in 2004 and dealing with the business ramifications caused by the storms.

Prior to his position with POMTOC, Mr. Royster served as President and Chief Executive Officer of RioMar Agencies, Inc., based in Houston, Texas and New Orleans, Louisiana. He shouldered profit and loss responsibilities for what is a multi-national maritime corporation with activities in the United States, Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and in the Caribbean. He had operational responsibility for 10 offices in the U.S., plus 24 internationally.

Mr. Royster has participated in extensive international business travel throughout Europe, Scandinavia, the Far East, and Latin America. He has direct interface experience with most governmental agencies involved in international trade.

Mr. Royster's public sector experience includes serving as Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer for the Mississippi State Port Authority. In this capacity he was responsible for all port operations, equipment, security and operating personnel. Additionally, he was responsible for the project management of several major construction efforts including construction of two refrigerated warehouses, major dock and berth refurbishment, terminal expansion and port land reclamation.

Mr. Royster began his maritime career in 1972 with Ryan-Walsh Stevedoring, Incorporated. Over the course of more than two decades with the company, he rose to the

position of Vice President, Operations for South Carolina and Mississippi where he was responsible for multi-port and multi-terminal operations.

Mr. Royster attended the University of South Alabama and the Tulane Institute for Port and Terminal Operations in New Orleans, Louisiana.